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9

Application Number

09/397,325

Filing Date

09/16/1999

First Named Inventor

Gene W. Arant

Art Unit

2178

Examiner Name

Cesar B. Paula


Attorney Docket Number

0147

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

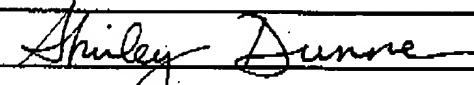
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT EXAMINING OPERATION

Re: Application No. 09/397,325;
Filed: 09/16/1999
Applicant: Gene W. Arant; Confirmation No. 8607
For: ELECTRONICALLY CONTROLLED METHOD OF COMPOSING INFORMATION
Group Art Unit 2178;
Examiner Cesar B. Paula

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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Sir:

This is a response to the Final Action Report that was issued under date of January 31, 2006.

The gist of Applicant's invention is a manual adjustment from time to time of the dwell time that each information segment in a continuously moving input series of information segments shall remain in a fixed transfer location awaiting an operator decision on whether to copy it and use it in an output. There is not a selection made separately for each individual data element. An adjustment is made in the speed of step-wise movement of the continuously moving data stream. That meaning is clear from

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Applicant's specification, which states in part:

"A control box 18 provides a selection of dwell time for each letter of the alphabet as it arrives at transfer location 20. That is to say, a selection may be made that each alphabetical letter is to pause for perhaps one second, two seconds, or even five seconds ... " (underlining added).

Thus the modification of dwell time (the decision window), is made only from time to time, and then applies to all information segments arriving at the window until the dwell time is again adjusted. That meaning is made even more clear by the following further quotation from Applicant's specification:

"On the other hand, if the alphabet is moving relatively slowly, the operator may wish to reduce the dwell time to essentially zero, making it necessary to copy each letter 'on the fly', so to speak".

Applicant's claim language must be interpreted in conformance with the underlying specification.

Durrani fails to show a fixed transfer location. As the Examiner has conceded, Durrani also fails to disclose setting a dwell time for each of the successive information elements to pause in the transfer location. Durrani deals with only one piece of information at a time.

In any modern computer a mouse may be used to pinpoint a

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selected information item. The mouse pointer may be allowed to pause at a particular location for an amount of time determined by the operator. Sun adds very little to that well known procedure. Sun simply shows how the movement of the mouse may be manually speeded up by the operator, so as to reach its desired location more quickly.

The Examiner has contended that Sun teaches how Durrani could be modified to achieve the present invention. Perhaps the Examiner conjectured that Sun in some way had suggested a modification of dwell time by Durrani. There are two distinct reasons why such a conjecture would not be supportable.

First, nothing in Durrani suggests looking at Sun to learn how Durrani's operation could or should be modified.

More importantly, assuming that a speed change as suggested by Sun were indeed to be incorporated in Durrani, the result would not be what Applicant has invented. Both Durrani and Sun deal with the information one segment or element at a time. Applicant's method provides a continuously moving input information sequence in which the dwell time for each one of a number of successive information elements is changed. Thus, Durrani modified according to Sun would still not set a dwell time that would apply to each of a number of successively received information segments.

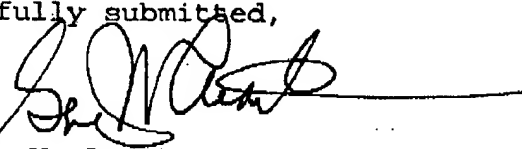
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For the convenience of the Examiner, the full text of all of the claims at issue, namely, Claims 17-23 and 32-34, is set forth in the last four pages of this response. Wordages shown in bold in independent Claims 17, 32, and 33 are the wordages which clearly and patentably distinguish this invention over the references.

Dependent claims 18-23 and 34 in and of themselves admittedly do not patentably distinguish over the references. However, they differ significantly in scope from the independent claims upon which they depend, and are therefore proper and allowable claims.

Favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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Applicant

February 21, 2006

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